Amend Claims 1-29 to read as indicated below.

1. (previously presented) The method of claim 16,

wherein identifying comprises determining that the patient is a child; and

wherein delivering comprises delivering a second electrical waveform characterized by less than or equal to approximately 150 Joules of energy to the patient.

2. (canceled)

3. (original) The method of claim 1,

wherein the universal electrode comprises an electrode having a foil layer with an opening disposed therein.

4. (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

compensating for patient-dependent impedance during electrical waveform delivery,

wherein the universal electrode comprises an electrode having a foil layer with an opening disposed therein.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 16,

wherein identifying comprises determining that the patient is a child; and

wherein delivering comprises delivering the second electrical waveform characterized by greater than approximately 25 Joules and less than approximately 50 Joules of energy to the patient.

6. (canceled)

7. (original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of determining whether defibrillation was successful.

8. (previously presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

determining whether defibrillation was successful; and

delivering a further electrical waveform characterized by an energy greater than that associated with the previous electrical waveform to the patient.

9. (previously presented) The method of claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

determining whether defibrillation was successful; and

delivering a further electrical waveform characterized by an energy greater than that associated with the previous electrical waveform to the patient,

wherein the further electrical waveform is characterized by an energy greater than 50 Joules.

10. (original) The method of claim 5,

wherein the universal electrode comprises an electrode having a foil layer with an opening disposed therein.

11. (previously presented) The method of claim 16,

wherein identifying comprises determining that the patient is a child;

wherein delivering comprises delivering the second electrical waveform characterized by an energy greater than approximately 25 Joules and less than approximately 50 Joules to the patient;

further comprising determining whether defibrillation was successful; and

further comprising successively delivering higher-energy electrical waveforms to the patient until a delivery of an electrical waveform characterized by a maximum energy target occurs.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the step of successively delivering higher-energy electrical waveforms to the patent is performed according to an energy increment plan.

13. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the maximum energy target equals approximately 100 Joules.

14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the universal electrode comprises an electrode having a foil layer with an opening disposed therein.

16. (currently amended) A method comprising the steps of:

coupling a patient to an AED via a pair of identical universal electrodes suitable for use upon both adults and children which ~~is~~ are smaller than ~~a~~ conventional adult electrodes and larger than ~~a~~ conventional pediatric electrodes for delivering the energy level produced by the AED to a patient;

identifying to the AED whether the patient is an adult or a child by operator setting of an operator adjustable adult/pediatric mode indicator;

electronically determining whether the patient requires defibrillation;

producing in the AED an energy level appropriate for an adult in the event that the patient is identified as an adult;

delivering a first electrical waveform via the universal electrodes which is characterized by the energy level appropriate for an adult in the event that the patient is an adult;

producing in the AED an energy level appropriate for a child in the event that the patient is identified as a child; and

delivering a second electrical waveform via the universal electrodes which is characterized by the energy level appropriate for a child in the event that the patient is a child.

17. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the first electrical waveform is characterized by an energy of approximately 150 Joules.

18. (original) The method of claim 16, wherein the second electrical waveform is characterized by an energy of approximately 50 Joules.

19-24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein setting an adult/pediatric mode indicator further comprises determining whether a first electrical waveform or a second electrical waveform is to be produced by a defibrillator.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 16, wherein setting an adult/pediatric mode indicator further comprises setting an adult/pediatric mode switch.

27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein setting an adult/pediatric mode indicator further comprises determining whether a first electrical waveform or a second electrical waveform is to be produced by a defibrillator.

29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28, wherein setting an adult/pediatric mode indicator further comprises setting an adult/pediatric mode switch.